

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /004 R

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APPROVED BY EUR/EE:NGANDREWS
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-----089876 130334Z /73

P 122231Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 122205

FOR BROWN FROM ANDREWS--REPLY FOR EUR/EE ONLY, 3 COPIES

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. BERGLAND VISIT. A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT TO GIEREK HAS BEEN PREPARED. ROY WALD WILL CARRY IT BACK WITH HIM WHEN HE LEAVES MAY 13. AN ERRONEOUS VERSION HAD BEEN POUCHED TO YOU (THE POUCH LEAVING HERE MAY 11). IT CONTAINS AN INCORRECT DATE FOR THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO WARSAW AND YOU SHOULD DISREGARD IT. (FYI: THE ERROR WAS MADE AT THE NSC, AND THE ORIGINAL OF THE LETTER WAS POUCHED DIRECTLY FROM THERE.)

2. PORT SECURITY INCIDENT. THE POLISH EMBASSY TELEPHONED MAY 12 TO INFORM US OF THE "SEIZURE" OF TWO POLISH CREWMEN BY INS AGENTS IN NORFOLK. THEY ARRIVED ON THE LIBERIAN MERCHANTMAN "REGINA OLDENDORFF" ON MAY 9 AND ARE BEING DETAINED UNTIL THE VESSEL IS READY TO SAIL MAY 15. WE
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CALLED INS NORFOLK TO CONFIRM THIS AND ASCERTAIN WHETHER ANY UNTOWARD PROBLEMS ARE INVOLVED. THE MEN HAVE BEEN DETAINED UNDER STANDING REGULATIONS FOR PORTS THAT ARE CLOSED TO VESSELS AND NATIONALS OF THE SOVIET BLOC. NORFOLK, CHARLESTON, NEWPORT NEWS, AND POSSIBLY ONE OR TWO OTHER PORTS ARE CLOSED TO POLISH NATIONALS AND VESSELS UNDER THESE REGULATIONS. WE HAVE INFORMED THE POLISH

EMBASSY. IT IS NOT PARTICULARLY HAPPY ABOUT THE INCIDENT
BUT SEEMED TO ACCEPT OUR EXPLANATION. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE122205
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JSEYMOUR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780203-0278
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780562/aaaacavp.tel
Line Count: 65
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fb26969f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2702270
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL
TAGS: OGEN
To: WARSAW
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fb26969f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014